

1 H.398

2 Introduced by Representative Masland of Thetford

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Public service; Public Utility Commission; net metering

6 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to require that  
7 the Public Utility Commission balance the costs and benefits to Vermonters  
8 when determining group net metering rates and to remove any cap on group  
9 projects.

10 An act relating to group net metering rates and projects

11 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

12 Sec. 1. 30 V.S.A. § 8010 is amended to read:

13 § 8010. SELF-GENERATION AND NET METERING

14 \* \* \*

15 (c) In accordance with this section, the Commission shall adopt and  
16 implement rules that govern the installation and operation of net metering  
17 systems.

18 (1) The rules shall establish and maintain a net metering program that:

1           (A) advances the goals and total renewables targets of this chapter  
2           and the goals of 10 V.S.A. § 578 (greenhouse gas reduction) and is consistent  
3           with the criteria of subsection 248(b) of this title;

4           (B) achieves a level of deployment that is consistent with the  
5           recommendations of the Electrical Energy and Comprehensive Energy Plans  
6           under sections 202 and 202b of this title, unless the Commission determines  
7           that this level is inconsistent with the goals and targets identified in subdivision  
8           (1)(A) of this subsection (c). Under this subdivision (B), the Commission shall  
9           consider the Plans most recently issued at the time the Commission adopts or  
10          amends the rules;

11          (C) to the extent feasible, ensures that net metering does not shift  
12          costs included in each retail electricity provider's revenue requirement between  
13          net metering customers and other customers;

14          (D) accounts for all costs and benefits of net metering, including the  
15          potential for net metering to contribute toward relieving supply constraints in  
16          the transmission and distribution systems and to reduce consumption of fossil  
17          fuels for heating and transportation;

18          (E) ensures that all customers who want to participate in net metering  
19          have the opportunity to do so;

20          (F) balances, over time, the pace of deployment and cost of the  
21          program with the program's impact on rates;

1 (G) accounts for changes over time in the cost of technology; ~~and~~

2 (H) balances the costs and benefits to all Vermonters when  
3 determining the rates for group net metering projects; and

4 (I) allows a customer to retain ownership of the environmental  
5 attributes of energy generated by the customer's net metering system and of  
6 any associated tradeable renewable energy credits or to transfer those attributes  
7 and credits to the interconnecting retail provider, and:

8 (i) if the customer retains the attributes, reduces the value of the  
9 credit provided under this section for electricity generated by the customer's  
10 net metering system by an appropriate amount; and

11 (ii) if the customer transfers the attributes to the interconnecting  
12 provider, requires the provider to retain them for application toward  
13 compliance with sections 8004 and 8005 of this title.

14 (2) The rules shall include provisions that govern:

15 (A) Subject to subdivision (E) of this subdivision (2), whether there  
16 is a limit on the cumulative plant capacity of net metering systems to be  
17 installed over time and what that limit is, if any;\_

18 (B) ~~the~~ The transfer of certificates of public good issued for net  
19 metering systems and the abandonment of net metering systems;\_

20 (C) ~~the~~ The respective duties of retail electricity providers and net  
21 metering customers;\_

1 (D) ~~the~~ The electrical safety, power quality, interconnection, and  
2 metering of net metering systems;

3 (E) ~~the~~ The formation of group net metering systems, the resolution  
4 of disputes between group net metering customers and the interconnecting  
5 provider, and the billing, crediting, and disconnection of group net metering  
6 customers by the interconnecting provider; ~~and~~. The rules shall not limit the  
7 cumulative capacity of a net metering system attributed to a group or customer  
8 when that group or customer is a municipality or school.

9 \* \* \*

10 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

11 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2019.